

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

& WESTERN FRUIT-GROWER.

Vol. 3.

AURELIA, IOWA, APRIL, 1897.

No. 2

Barred Plymouth Rocks Black Minorcas,

Light Brahmas, R. C. B. Leghorns, and Partridge Cochins. High class stock. Circular free. A year's subscription to The Messenger with every order.

SOME FINE BIRDS NOW FOR SALE

At a reasonable figure. I am prepared to prove to you that my stock is as good as can be bought anywhere for the same money.

A. H. LANE, KEOSAUQUA, IOWA.

Buff Wyandottes

EXCLUSIVELY.

My patrons are in every part of the west, and my stock pleases them. It is equal to the best.

Eggs for season of 1897, \$2.50 per sitting of 13; three sittings for \$6.00.

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For 33 Years

I have bred the White Faced Black Spanish, and have made as close a study of the breed as anyone in America. Better birds than mine cannot be found. Circular and my photograph free if you mention The Messenger.

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Lt. Brahmas

EXCLUSIVELY.

13 Eggs for \$1.00.

From birds bred on the utility plan. A combination of the Felch and Autocrat strains. Noted for their size and standard markings; winners wherever shown. Correspondence solicited.

R. O. ACKLEY, Sioux City, Iowa.

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Exclusively, McKean strain. One dollar and a half per 13; \$2.50 per 26. Albert Mitzlaff, Abbotsford, Wisconsin.

Plymouth Rocks Barred White.

Buff Wyandottes,

And Single Comb Brown Leghorns. First class stock at reasonable prices.

W. P. MARSDEN, Columbus City, Iowa.

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—TO—

Sprague Commission Co.,
CHICAGO

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

I have Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels scoring from 86½ to 90 points which I will sell at reasonable figures. Can also spare some pullets with scores from 88 to 91 points.

You cannot buy high class stock for less money than I will ask for it.

MR. H. E. SANBORN. Fairbank, Iowa.

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White Wyandottes, Barred Plymouth Rocks, B. B. R. Game Bantams.

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My circular is free, if you mention The Messenger; it is **not gaudy**; and gives my Show Room record for the past two years.

G. A. C. CLARKE.

Pine Tree Poultry Farm. Le Mars, Iowa.

Silver Spangled HAMBURG.

My pen this season is headed by a 94 point male mated to females which are in every respect his equal.

My Stock Wins

wherever shown. There is none better. A trial order will convince you of this fact. If less than 7 eggs hatch will refill the order at half price. I also breed

SNOW WHITE Imperial Pekin Ducks.

EGGS FROM THE ABOVE BREEDS
\$1.25 per 13; \$2 per 26.

Correspondence a pleasure. Circular free.
E. D. FRAUTSCHY, Monticello, Wis.

MAKE IT A Point!

To have me on your list when in need of

Barred and White Plymouth Rocks.

Barred score 90 to 92½; White score 92½ to 95½. Two pens each. Eggs \$2.00 per 13.

L. E. ALEXANDER, Sutherland, Iowa.

SEND TO JOE FARMER, Flushing, Ohio.

For circular of choice Barred Plymouth Rocks and eggs. A fine lot of cockerels and pullets to sell and eggs from ten choice yards. Mention Messenger when you write.

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Of some extra fine White Wyandot, Black Langshan, and Light Brahma cockerels, I will close out some fine specimens at less than half value. Send me \$1 to \$3 and I will guarantee satisfaction. Eggs from above breeds \$2 per 13. One Olentangy Brooder \$3.50.
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My stock is unscored, but the eggs which I am offering for sale are from birds carefully selected and approved by an experienced Langshan breeder. Eggs \$1.00 per 13.

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Is in the feeding. Our poultry literature, which we send free to all poultry keepers, tells the secret of all profitable feeding. Address

FITCH FERTILIZER WORKS,
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Nonpareil Poultry Yards, La Salle, Illinois.

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Breeder of
ROSE-COMB BROWN LEGHORNS, SINGLE AND ROSE COMB BLACK MINORCAS.

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O. P. GREER, Bourbon, Ind.

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The Barred Plymouth Rock,

"Zebra," "Royal blue" and "Ringlet" strains, carefully selected and mated each season. Every bird is large and fine yellow legs and beak, typical in form, showing that circular barring that is so much admired.

My famous strain of Brown Leghorns are noted for nice five point combs, smooth white ear-lobes, beauty of form, good size and great egg production.

My Buff Leghorns are Arnold's strain, and are buff all over down to the skin. They are large, have good Leghorn symmetry, and are good in other points. Eggs from above varieties \$2 for 15; \$3.50 for 30.

My Red Pile Leghorns are direct from the originator's stock. No more beautiful combination of colors can be found on any fowl. Imagine a male bird with a rich crimson back, wings a combination of deep red, white and chestnut red, tail pure white; female pure white except breast which is chestnut red and neck a lemon yellow striped with white. Eggs \$3 for 13. Send for circular.

Fairview Poultry Yards. J. L. STROSNIDER, Proprietor, New Lexington, O.

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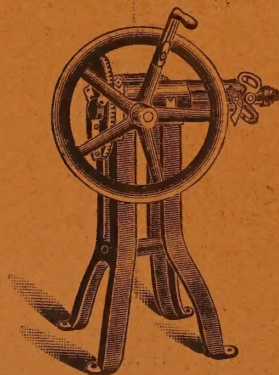
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BROODERS,
EXHIBITION and
SHIPPING COOPS

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Our machines superior in every respect to any made. Our prices range from \$6.75 to \$25, according to size of the machine. We warrant our machines the only automatic feeding machines on the market.

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Invincible Hatcher (100 Egg) \$10.00.
50 Egg Incubator \$5.00. Brooders \$3.00.

Send 2 stamps for No. 104 catalogue.

BUCKEYE INCUBATOR COMPANY.

Springfield, Ohio.

WHITE WYANDOTTE

Eggs. Two dollars per fifteen from two pens headed by \$15.00 Forsyth cock and \$10.00 Mack, Vt., cockerel, with 94 to 95½ hens and pullets. Fertility and chicks guaranteed. Warren B. Davis, Sutherland, Iowa.

Guaranteed FRESH

And Fertile.

Buff Leghorns,
Barred Ply. Rocks,
Black Langshans.

My Langshans score from 92½ to 94½ by Emery, Hewes and Clarke; Leghorns 90½ to 93½. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. Sixty per cent hatch guaranteed, or order re-filled free of charge.

M. PARROTT,
AURELIA, IOWA.

W. E. Dorland & Co.,

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

Breeders of thoroughbred Silver Laced Wyandottes, Light Brahmas, Single Comb brown Leghorns, Single Comb White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks and Bronze Turkeys. Fifteen varieties of land and water fowls. Prize winners from the famous Mansfield Poultry Yards. Catalogue free on application.

BLACK MINORCAS.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorns,
Barred Plymouth Rocks.

No better stock found anywhere. Eggs \$1.00 per 13. Satisfaction guaranteed.
W. H. PROTEXTER, Sheldon, Iowa.

500 BUSHELS

—OF—

White French Artichokes,

At \$1.00 per bushel: 3 bushels \$2.75; 6 bushels \$5.00, sacks free. Also German Millet Seed, 75 cents per bushel
W. H. MILLER, Independence, Iowa.

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The Critical Period.

Newly hatched chicks need to be fed often, but only a little at a time. If moist food is used it must not be allowed to lie around in sight, after the chicks have eaten their fill, and become soured. We have seen cornmeal, old and soil-covered, lying in front of the brood coops an inch deep, and yet the chicks didn't all die. Some of them, on the contrary, looked quite thrifty, but if the owner had taken the trouble to correctly ascertain the percentage of chicks reared, the record would have been nothing to be proud of. The most critical period of a chick's life is the first three weeks after it is hatched. Careful attention at this time will reduce the liability of loss to the minimum. We have never been favorable to allowing the chicks free access to all the grain food they will eat at any time. Some recommend feeding troughs filled with cracked grain and placed where they will be constantly within the reach of the chicks after they have left the hen. We do not feel justified in condemning this plan, as we have had proof of the fact that it succeeds well with many good breeders. Our principal objection to it is that it relieves the chicks of the necessity of hunting over the range for a part of their living, and thus deprives them of the exercise which is essential to hardiness and perfect health. Our success has been best when we fed but twice a day after the chicks were separated from the hen, but this plan is not advised except where there is ample range for the growing stock, affording them opportunity to obtain all the food that they require if they will go out and seek it.

The Rule Has Exceptions.

There are exceptions to all rules. The rule is to feed shelled corn to the setting hens. It is generally believed to be the best thing which can be furnished them, and the great majority of

breeders give them that and nothing else. But all setting hens will not do well on an exclusive diet of shelled corn. They will grow weak and die if nothing else is given them. The breeder must keep his eyes open and know when it is necessary to make a change. Feed shelled corn as long as the hens do well on it, but add something to it as soon as it is discovered that something else is needed. The observant breeder will not be at loss to know when a change is called for.

Thousand Dollar Plymouth Rocks.

Mr. E. B. Thompson, of Amenia, New York, is out in a letter offering \$1000 for a Barred Plymouth Rock scoring 95 points by twelve competent judges. Now what's to prevent those fellows who believe they have a backyard full of 94 point Rock cockerels squeezing one of them up a point higher and scooping in that \$1,000. It's a mighty soft snap for the people who think that breeding first-class Plymouth Rocks is about as easy as rolling off a log.

Lower Prices.

Many well known breeders have this year reduced the price of eggs one-third. This has been done in conformity to the general tendency in the direction of lower values. Eggs from stock which have heretofore sold for \$3 can now be had for \$2, and in some cases for \$1.50. When eggs of this description can be bought for such prices there is no excuse for anyone longer encumbering himself with inferior stock. The wonder is that anyone will do it.

Must Have Vegetable Food.

Hens that are kept continually on dry grain and meat scraps are liable to make their owner trouble when the hatching season arrives. They should have vegetable food then if at no other time of their lives. Otherwise there will be infertile eggs, and lots of them. Nothing is preferable to green grass,

but it is not possible in many cases to provide this. Cabbage and turnips, in our opinion, are the best substitutes. The breeder who laid by a store of these vegetables last fall will have reason to congratulate himself upon his forethought at this time of year. If this material was buried deep in the ground safe from frost, it will be worth several times more for the purpose under consideration than if kept over winter in the cellar.

Can Sell Good Stock.

There is a market for everything of real merit in the poultry line that one has to sell. The largest breeders in the United States succeed, one year with another, in selling everything which they are willing should leave their hands. They can usually find sale at profitable prices for more birds than they are able to rear. But let no one make the mistake that it does not take effort and intelligent forethought to effect these sales. These men know how to go about finding buyers. They have learned, as all must do, by experience, how to build up a permanent business. As one cannot learn all the ins and outs of such a business in a year or two, no untrained person should expect to make sales with the same facility as these men do. But if you have a good bird you can sell it for what it is worth, if you know how.

Two for the Price of One.

We will send The Messenger and either of the following journals to any address for 50 cents. The regular subscription price of all the papers in the list is 50 cents. You get The Messenger for nothing,

The Reliable Poultry Journal.
The Poultry Tribune. (Freeport, Ill.)
The Poultry Herald.
The Western Poultry Journal.
The Feathered Realm.
The Michigan Poultry Breeder.
American Poultry Journal.
Inter-State Poultryman.
The Poultry-Keeper.

Poultry Breeders Are Honest.

It is probably safe to say that fully nine-tenths of the flocks of poultry which are the pride of their owners today had their beginning in a setting or two of eggs which were purchased with that object in view. By far the larger proportion of people make their start in the poultry business with eggs. The money necessary to begin with stock is an item of considerable moment to most of those who aspire to the building up of a business of that nature. But eggs from stock of high merit can now be had at a very small expense, and it is more to the convenience of most people to make their start in this way than to buy birds.

And so it seems that the sellers of eggs have been a pretty trusty lot of people. Quite a number of the eggs which they sold must have hatched and produced chickens very nearly like what was expected of them. Poultry breeders are not all on the beat, not by a large majority. People who deal with them stand a fair show of getting the kind of goods that they order.

Many well known breeders have recently declared their intention to discontinue the selling of eggs. They receive so many complaints, and are so often openly accused of something very closely related to stealing, that they have concluded to go out of a business that leave them open to charges which virtually place them in the same list with highway robbers. It would be unfortunate if a considerable proportion of our best breeders should stop selling eggs, and thereby make it impossible for those who cannot afford to buy birds to come into possession of their strains of stock. It is to be hoped that these breeders won't do it. Breeders who are doing an honest business can afford to be indifferent to the groundless accusations which are made against them by buyers of eggs who are not in a position to know when they are rightly treated. While it is hard on the feelings to be classed with dead-beats and thieves, such things will have no lasting effect either upon the reputation or the business interests of the skilled breeders who are doing their level best to give their patrons the full value of their money.

Good Months for Hatching.

April and May are not too late for hatching Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes for the winter shows. In fact

many breeders prefer to get out the birds during those months which they intend to put on exhibition. They will just about reach maturity in time for the shows, and their plumage will be brighter and handsomer than it would be if they were a month or six weeks older. Birds that are hatched in February and March will usually sell better than those that are hatched in April and May. The general run of buyers who write for descriptions and prices in October and November will show a preference for the earlier hatches. They are anxious to escape the cuts for under weight, and will avail themselves of a sure thing in this respect rather than take any chances on the birds which in those months have not quite attained their growth. But, except in the case of the largest breeds, the breeder who takes proper care of his chicks can hatch them out in April and the forepart of May and have them fully up to standard weight in December.

The most accomplished poultry breeders cannot produce fowls so good but that neglect and ill-treatment will convert them into scrubs, as they have been brought to their "high estate" by the very best attentions which can be bestowed upon them and know nothing about starvation, discomfort and general bad usage. They are not built for "roughing it" and are no more a match for the scrubs in that particular than is the well cared for family horse to a wild broncho of the western plains. We are of the opinion that a good many people who express their dissatisfaction at the kind of stock which has been sent them by reputable breeders have no just cause of complaint against the seller. These people received what they bargained for, but surrounded the birds with such conditions as to soon reduce their value to a level of that of scrubs. We have in mind an instance where a purchase was made of a small pen of birds which had won the name of being remarkable layers. These birds were placed in an old tumble-down outbuilding, which besides being full of cracks through which the north wind whistled freely, was filthy beyond description. The fine layers refused to lay in these quarters and they were anything but a happy looking crowd when we saw them. The owner was in a terribly bad humor about his pur-

chase and expressed his mind very freely about the man who had sold him the birds and recommended them as good layers. It was with fear and trembling that we ventured to tell him that the birds were probably all that was claimed for them, but they were not used to such surroundings, and very properly resented being treated in that way.

Good birds need good treatment. They won't thrive without it. If a person does not have a correct understanding of the term good treatment, he had better devote his valuable attention to scrubs.

There Will Be Culls.

If it is one's aim to have fine exhibition birds he must prepare himself to hatch out and rear chicks in numbers corresponding to the utmost limit of his faculties. There will be a large number of second rate birds and culls no matter how fine the stock may be to which they owe their parentage. There must be a goodly sized flock to select from if the object is to obtain birds which will take high rank in the show room.

Several years ago a dozen or more poultry judges were requested to express their opinion as to what per cent of chicks hatched from the eggs of 90 point parents would score 90 points and better. The replies to the question placed the average in the neighborhood of fifty per cent. A number of widely known breeders immediately declared this per cent to be entirely too high. As some varieties are easier to breed to standard requirements than others, a higher per cent would be reached in these cases than in those where greater difficulties had to be met and overcome; but it was held by men whose names are familiar to every one who keeps full blood poultry, that as a whole the average under such conditions will not exceed twenty per cent.

With good stock to begin with, the main reliance for valuable show birds is in as large a flock as one's circumstances will enable him to care for. Get rid of the culls early, at any price, and give whatever space is at hand to those which give reasonable promise of developing into something of value. If the object is to rear high scoring stock fill up the range with that kind of birds as full as can be done with safety, and do not let anything of low grade occupy a foot of your space a day after its true character becomes apparent to the eye.

Not Afraid of Cholera.

Skilled breeders of poultry do not stand in much fear of the chicken cholera. While sensible of the deadly character of the disease they consider themselves measurably safe from its ravages so long as their flocks are properly housed and cared for. There is a vast number of such breeders who have been in the business for years without losing a fowl by the cholera, and they have come to look upon this plague as one of the least of the drawbacks incident to the business.

But we frequently have people tell us that they would like to rear chickens if they could only find some way to escape from the cholera. They have made several starts in the business but as soon as they get fairly under way along comes the cholera and cleans up the flock. One of these unfortunates recently told us that he had been persued by that sort of "luck" all his life, and that he had given up trying to keep chickens except a few scrubs which rustled around the farm and made a living for themselves as best they could. We know all about the accommodations which were furnished the poultry on this farm. We had been there and seen them and it was no mystery to us why this man's fowls died with the cholera. Perhaps it wasn't cholera that carried them off, but certainly all the conditions were about as favorable for the development of that disease as if they had been made to order. If chickens did not get the cholera amid such surroundings they were not living up to their privileges.

Let it be understood that chicken cholera is a rare disease. It has its origin in foulness and filth, and when the germs once become active nothing but the most thorough work will be effective in their destruction. They sometimes give trouble long after the original outbreak in spite of good attention to the flock and a very complete renovation of the premises. It is therefore, a matter of the highest importance to guard against an outbreak of this disease, and this involves nothing more than to bestow such care upon the flock as any careful and intelligent breeder might be expected to give to it. Experienced breeders of this description will refer the beginner to a score of things which are liable to make him more trouble than the cholera.

Mr. Bennett Explains.

Editor MESSENGER:—The March issue of The Messenger contained a paragraph referring to the great number of years that I have been a breeder of the White Faced Black Spanish, and among other complimentary things you said:

"Mr. Bennett also has a head full of good ideas about poultry culture in general, and the poultry industry would be benefited if he could be induced to more often put some of them in print."

It is not for me to say whether that is correct or not, but allow me to tell you a story. In the early days of Indiana there was a preacher who had an appointment at a log cabin. His sermon was all written out and neatly rolled up. During the opening services he stuck it in an auger hole, and in his nervousness pushed it in so far that it was beyond his reach. After vainly trying to recover it he turned about to his congregation and said: "Brethren, I have a good sermon in that hole if I could only get it out."

JOHN BENNETT.

Sunman, Indiana.

Setting Hens.

The setting hen should leave her nest every day, and if she does not do this of her own accord, she should be taken off and kept away from the eggs long enough to take food and water. The hen that will remain on the nest three or four days in succession is not the one that will show the best results when the day for hatching arrives. Such a hen is often looked upon as a genuine treasure, and food and water are carried to her on the nest in order that she may not suffer for nourishment, and there is great surprise when at the end of three weeks she comes off the nest with only two or three chicks or none at all. The hen that is left to "steal her nest" in some secluded spot where she is wholly undisturbed during the period of incubation, will leave the eggs every day, and it is generally understood that these hens hatch larger broods on an average than those which are constantly under the care of the owner.

Uniformity.

It is the average quality of the breeding pen which tells on the offspring. A male bird of the first-class will prove a disappointment if mated to a lot of low grade females. The product is not like-

ly to be as good as it would be if the flock consisted of medium birds throughout. We would much prefer a pen made up of 92 birds throughout to one made up of 90 point females and a 94 male. It's a fatal mistake to suppose that a high scoring male can in a single season blot out all the glaring faults existing in a pen of hens and pullets but little better than culls. Many people have invested money in obedience to that idea and been sorely disappointed with the results.

Aim at uniformity. Decide upon a type and bring the entire flock into as close conformity to it as possible. Strive to get the birds to look as near alike as "peas in the pod," and in your attempts towards improvement make the type the central thought of your efforts. You cannot attain or preserve this uniformity if there is a marked difference between the male and his mates.

There are breeders who appear to think that all that is necessary to impress buyers with a sense of the value of their flocks is to hold up to their admiration a high-scoring male. When we buy we want to be assured of a good score on the part of the male, but we are equally interested in the scores of the females. We want the scores to indicate evenness, in relation of one bird to another, and whether they be high or low, we want the male to score somewhere near the average of his mates. We have just manifested our faith in this plan by ordering a setting of eggs from a pen made up of pullets scoring from 90 to 91½ points and a 92 point male, when we could have had them at the same price from 89 to 92½ point hens and pullets and a 93 point cockerel.

Stretch a thin wire tightly four inches above the netting, and you are not likely to be troubled with fowls escaping from the yards during the breeding season. There is but little danger of such escapes anyway if six-foot netting is used, but the wire makes assurance doubly sure.

Many otherwise good specimens of Buff Plymouth Rocks and Buff Wyandotters will show a pearl colored eye. This is a defect which should be carefully weeded out of the flock. Many breeders would not use such a bird no matter how fine he might be in other respects. Some may regard the eye as unimportant if the bird is good in other sections, but they will change their minds in regard to this after a couple of shipments of such birds to their customers.

With Apologies to Wm. Shakespear.

Great are the virtues of cut green bones;
Which, like the angle worm, long and wrig-
gling,
Has yet a precious virtue in its body;
To make hens lay and chickens grow.
And thus their lives, their wants being all sup-
plied,
Find phosphates in bones, carbon in corn,
Teeth in grit, and good in everything.

Much is said and written derogatory to corn as a feed for fowls yet if, from any cause, the supply were to be entirely cut off, the loss would be keenly felt. In the western states, where in the winter the thermometer registers zero or thereabouts for three or more solid months, I know of nothing which could replace it. Corn and cut green bones, combined with vegetable food in some form, will produce good results if other conditions, such as freedom from lice, etc., are favorable. Care must be taken, however, in feeding corn to fowls confined or, owing to a lack of exercise, they will get too fat. If the whole grain is thrown on the ground it will be too easily picked up, and the same may be said if it be thrown into straw or litter, particularly if it be short and easily packed down: but if the grain be coarsely ground or cracked and then scattered in the scratching pens it will induce more exercise on the part of the hens than any other grain that I know of. In many respects I am inclined to determine the laying qualities of a hen in the same manner as I would the producing qualities of a milch cow. A good dairy cow when milking will not get fat or in any way approaching that condition; all the food given, over and above what is necessary to support life, being turned into milk and butter. Exercise in her case does not appear to be essential though I believe an hour of sunshine on warm days (I now refer to winter care) is both beneficial and humane. The same applies to the hen. If not why is it that in every flock some few hens keep up a steady production of eggs while others turn the food they consume into flesh and fat. Scratching and hustling is natural to the hen, wild or domesticated, and you may put it down as an axiom that the scratching hen is the laying hen. I believe that in every breed and variety of fowls there are milk-producers and beef cattle if I may be allowed the expression. And when it comes to selecting eggs from which to raise your crop of chicks pick out the eggs from whichever class you wish to perpetuate. Market the lay-

ers when they are past profitable production, and dispose of the non-laying kind whenever the price justifies the sale.

G. A. C. CLARKE.

Very Tiring.

When the opponents of in-and-in breeding dish up the old argument that it has proven injurious in the human race, it makes us very tired. The fact that mental powers are destroyed by too much consanguinity has nothing whatever to do with the physical stamina. There are some very powerful idiots in this world. Hens and cows are not bred for any intellectual development, but for business, and the only way to get maximum results in egg production and milk yield is by breeding of closely related animals, bearing in mind the fundamental law of the survival of the fittest in the selection of the breeding stock.—American Fancier.

High Authority.

Mr. H. S. Babcock is of the opinion that any buyer of eggs ought to be satisfied if he succeeds in getting six chicks from a setting of eggs. He admits that that is the best that he can do on an average. But all the same, the man who hasn't had a hundredth part of his experience will feel wronged if he fails to obtain less than ten chicks from the thirteen eggs which was sent him by some conscienceless breeder for \$1.50.

Cats Are Deceitful.

Don't be too sure that the gentle well-behaved house cat will not kill little chickens. She may not even look towards them when your eyes are upon her, but that is no proof that she is not a chicken-eating cat when she is not watched. Cats have more deceit in their nature than many people know of. They are a necessity to the poultryman; he can hardly keep house without them. But the best of them will bear watching. A cunning, chicken-eating cat can do more damage to the poultryman than all the other enemies which are liable to prey upon his broods. A chicken-killing cat, like an egg-eating hen, is never cured of her vice, and there is no occasion for any doubt as to what is the best thing to be done in either case

Different Kinds of Hens.

A restless, uneasy, excitable hen is a nuisance in the hatching room. As nearly as possible make choice of hens

for this purpose that are docile, good-tempered and that do not stand in fear of their owner. There is a difference between hens in this respect, and it will result in a considerable difference to the owner to take note of the fact and govern himself accordingly.



G. W. TOYNE

Glidden, Iowa.
Breeder and
Mater of
**SILVER-LACED
WYANDOTTES,
Only.**
Eggs \$1 for 15.
Birds for Sale.

Barred Plymouth Rocks

From high scoring stock. Cockerels \$1 to \$3; pullets \$1 to \$2. They will produce winners and layers.

MARTIN RICKARD, - Grinnell, Iowa.

Eggs For Sale.

Barred and W. P. Rocks, Black Langshans, Light Brahmas, Single Comb Brown, Single Comb White, and Buff Leghorns, Buff Cochins, W. H. Turkeys, and Belgium Hares.

WM. MICHAEL. - Plain City, Ohio

Chicago and Detroit, 1897.

BUFF LEGHORN WINNERS.

I want every person interested in this popular and beautiful breed to send for our large 8-page '97 circular, free, stamp accepted. I have one of the finest flocks in America. Prize winners for six years. Get my circular sure.

GEO. S. BARNES,

Battle Creek, Michigan.

Eggs for Sale

**Black Minorcas and
Cornish Indians**

Exclusively.

If you want first-class stock please write. A postal card will do.

C. C. OSTERHOLD,

919 Chestnut St. Quincy, Illinois.

SINGLE COMB
WHITE Leghorn

White P. Rock and W. Wyandotte
Eggs. Fifteen for one dollar. Sixty for three dollars.

W. J. SHIELDS,

Harmon's Creek, Pa.

REWARD !

The Publishers of

Feathered Realm

Offer \$12 worth of space each month for articles. The only paper of its kind in western Pennsylvania. Send for samples.

ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO.

Cambridgeboro, Penn.

A Good Word for the Wyandotte.

That excellent journal, The California Poultry Tribune, pays the following compliment to the Wyandotte family:

"The student of fowl culture who thinks and writes, who talks and dreams and plans and speculates upon his fancy from practical as well as theoretical bases, is never at loss to discover characteristic temperament of any and every breed. These qualities in the Wyandottes are conspicuous. They have their individuality well marked. Some of them are: Independence of deportment. Some fowls, you may have noticed, are ever worrying over something exactly as many men and women do. The Wyandotte seldom worries. Will power, if the term may be allowed. This fowl is a tactician, and it affords the breeder no little diversion to observe the manner in which Mr. Wyandotte placed with a Rock, will out-general the Pilgrim at every move, seizing the greater share of comfort and food without scarcely an effort, while the said Pilgrim dances around in a very frenzy to grab all and be off but leaving half the spoil in the effort. The Rock is selfish, nervous, and has not the best of judgement; the Wyandotte is more reasonable, generous, calm, dependable. He will keep in good flesh upon one-half of that required by the Rock."

It's a Cruelty.

A hen may be set twice in succession, or even three times, but good common sense should teach a person that it is not a proper thing to do. If the hen is of no value as a breeder she may be made better use of in that manner than any other, but this does not atone for the cruelty of keeping the hen on the nest from three to nine weeks. The appearance of the hen after such a siege is sufficient evidence of misuse. There will seldom be a scarcity of broody hens in the spring if they are kept laying during the winter and fed a little more freely than common about the time they are wanted for hatching.

Cultivate Their Confidence.

There is a pleasure in working among docile fowls to which people are a stranger who never owned fowls of that kind. One should be able to go into his poultry house and pick up any bird that he has occasion to handle without throw-

ing all the occupants of the building into a panic. It saves time, it saves temper, and gives rise to a more friendly feeling between the owner and his fowls. And then there is a profit in it—a dollar and cents profit. The quiet, docile hen that is free from excitement or fear while the owner is performing the necessary work about the poultry house, will lay more eggs, other things being equal, than one that is in fear of her life every time he comes within her reach. Some breeds are more tamable than others, but any of them, by the exercise of patience and care on the part of the owner, can be taught that they have nothing to fear from his presence.

Hens or Pullets for Breeding.

If you have both hens and pullets of the required kind it will do no harm to make up the breeding pens of about an equal number of each. There is a difference of opinion as to the merits of hens and pullets as breeders, some claiming that birds bred from pullets are wanting in vigor and hardiness as compared to those bred from hens. While this is disputed by others, we do not remember of ever seeing it asserted that the offspring of young thrifty hens is inferior to that of pullets. The writer is free to say that he has not paid much respect to the above theory in mating up his breeding pens. We have simply picked out well developed, mature females according to the object we had in view without regard to the fact as to whether they were hens or pullets. If results which we have been so often assured are liable to follow this plan have occurred, they have not been perceptible to us. And yet we shall not declare there is no foundation to the theory in question. At any rate if one has both hens and pullets in proper number no harm can result from dividing them up in the manner indicated, and if he is a superlatively critical observer he may be able to perceive some benefits from the plan, but we do not believe they will be sufficiently marked to materially add to his happiness. G.

Nursing.

People who do not believe in giving medicine to ailing fowls are ready to admit that much may often be accomplished in the way of restoring a sick bird to health by careful nursing. Removing from the pen once a day and

giving a feed specially designed to meet the conditions of the case will frequently save the life of a valuable bird even after it has reached a stage which seems to place it beyond help. When a bird starts on a decline its mates show a good deal of human nature in assisting it down the descent, and if left to regain the lost ground unaided while suffering from their persecutions, it is only a matter of time when it will be obliged to give up the struggle. It is worth all the trouble it takes to thus save the life of a \$5 or \$10 bird, but one would hardly want to bother in that way with one of the 25-cent kind. What is written in The Messenger, however, has no reference to chickens of that pattern.

Cornish Indian Games, Exclu'y.

Eggs for sale. \$2.50 per 13.

WM. A. BARTMAN, Litchfield, Illinois.

Golden Wyandottes**Golden Seabright Bantams.**

A 92 point cock by Shellabarger heads our pen of Wyandottes. Entered two pairs at Anoka, Minn.—Felch, judge—and won 2nd cockerel 90, 2nd pullet 92½, 3rd pullet 89½. Entered four Seabrights and won 1st hen 94½, 3rd hen 92½, 1st pullet 92½, 2nd pullet 91½. At St Paul, Minn.—Sharp Butterfield, judge—won on 12 entries 1st cock 92, 1st cockerel 93½, 1st hen 94, 2nd hen 93, 3rd hen 93, 1st pullet 94, first pen 187, second pen 183.

Stock for sale. Eggs \$2 for one, or \$3.50 for two settings. A year's subscription to the Poultry Messenger with every order.

J. J. BEAN, Abbotsford, Wisconsin.

Rutherford Broth's,

AURELIA, IOWA.

Eggs

R. C. B. Leghorns,
Buff Leghorns,
White Wonders,
Golden Wyandottes,
Pekin Ducks,
Toulouse Geese.

FROM

Brown Leghorns, per setting of 13,	\$1.00
White Wonders " " "	2.00
Golden Wyandottes, " " "	1.50
Buff Leghorns, " " "	1.50
Pekin Ducks, 3 settings for	2.00
Toulouse Geese, per setting of 7,	2.00

Two years ago we bought a first prize pen of Pekin Ducks, and our present flock is made up of this purchase and their progeny.

WELCH'S

Single-Comb Brown LEGHORNS

Are fine as the finest. Stock for show and breeding purposes for sale at reasonable prices. Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$2.75 per 30. Orders booked now for spring delivery. Address

Wolverine Poultry Yard,

Jas. C. Welch, Prop.

Lansing, Mich.

Breeders of Langshans.

BY A. H. ASCHE, PRINCETON, ILL.

Mr. L. C. Sewell, Evergreen Park, Illinois, has an article in the April number of the American Poultry Journal calling on the Langshan breeders to organize an active Langshan club with a view to having certain things changed in the Standard. Here are a few of my ideas: weight of hen to 8 pounds; where the present Standard reads side springs should be side sprigs; any white of any part of feathers except toe feathering in the Blacks and black spots on the feathers of the Whites to disqualify, and severely cut for creamy white. As regards color let me repeat a suggestion made by Bro. James Garvin. Have a colored plate in the Standard the same as paint dealers have in their circulars. This, I think, would settle the color question, as the judge could in this way compare the feathers of the bird with the Standard and would be governed by it. Now I should like to hear from other breeders on these points through the journals. Let us try to come to some understanding. My idea of starting a club would be to have local clubs, where it is possible, and have these clubs join the central club as a body. The connecting bond which would thus exist between the clubs would make it an easy matter to disseminate anything new relating to the breed. It would also encourage the holding of small shows by the local clubs with a view of competing for a grand prize offered by the central organization. This, I think, would lead to an increased interest in the Langshan, and create a more active demand for the breed.

This breed, if we take into consideration the extent to which they are bred in some localities where they are best known, has not to my notion, received the attention it deserves. As this is the only breed to which I devote attention I have nothing to say in regard to the other breeds. I find it hard enough to attain a high degree of excellence with one breed.

One thing more I shall mention which was overlooked in the fore part of this letter. I should like to see white in earlobes disqualify. This is a defect which in my opinion, ought not to be to any extent tolerated. An imperfect earlobe makes against the appearance of a Langshan as much as anything we know of.

Disqualified Birds.

A disqualified bird is not necessarily a bird of impure blood. Well informed poultrymen do not need to be told this, but we have evidence of the fact before us that many people believe that a disqualified bird is lacking in purity of blood, and has had the disqualifying mark placed upon him as a consequence of his low origin. Disqualified birds are very often the product of parents of the very best blood. Breeders who have not had anything on their premises but fullbloods for a decade find disqualified birds on their hands every year, and they never expect to see the time when it will be otherwise.

A disqualified bird is not always a worthless specimen even for breeding purposes, but none but a breeder of large experience, with a distinct object in mind, and with a full understanding of the best means of attaining it, can with any degree of safety make use of such a bird in the breeding pen. The novice has no business with disqualified birds if he entertains the hope of surrounding himself with a high-scoring flock. He cannot possibly know anything about the conditions where such birds can be used in a manner which will prove to his advantage.

A Runway for Chicks.

Two 12-inch boards set up on edge and covered with cheap cotton cloth make a comfortable runway for very young chicks in chilly weather. It protects them from the wind, and furnishes a place to exercise at times when without such a protection it would be unsafe to allow them outside of the brood coop. A couple of 10-foot boards and a few

yards of cotton cloth for this purpose will be a good investment for any person who intends to rear even a single brood of chicks.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

West & Traux, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c, per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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Until you have given the
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FREE OF CHARGE.

Incubators \$9 to \$40. Brood
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Expert THE LEGHORN HOME,
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**NEVER FAIL TO GROW
AND PRODUCE GOOD CROPS.**

Catalogue for 1897 mailed **FREE** to
Buyers of Seeds and Plants.

Currie Bros., MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Rose-Comb Brown Leghorns.

combs, and superior laying qualities. Exhibition and breeding birds \$1.50 to \$2.00. Eggs \$1.25 per 13. A year's subscription to the Poultry Messenger with every order. Don't pay any more than I ask for birds or eggs.

The English BULL TERRIER

Is neat, clean, quick and game. The dog for the poultryman. Puppies for sale at all times at reasonable prices. Send for our circular. Correspondence a pleasure. Address T. L. ACKLEY, or

THE FASHION KENNELS, Hawarden, Iowa.

A FINE LOT OF Exhibition and Breeding Birds

My Leghorns are Winners

Of many first prizes, and have won at Rock Island, Illinois, Cedar Rapids, and Sioux City, Iowa, and Nebraska State Fair. They are noted for their size, white earlobes, beautiful

Need Educating.

A well known breeder of Buff Cochins confesses that he is rarely able to breed or buy a male bird that is free from dark spots on the flight feathers. Probably as much study and care has been bestowed upon the Buff Cochins as any breed in the Standard, and yet they are far from presenting the "solid buff" which in these modern days is so often quoted in the papers. But there are people who will still think they are cheated if they are sent a Buff Wyandotte or a Buff Plymouth Rock with black spots on its wings. These persons expect a better color in these new breeds than is at present to be found in other buff fowls which were in popular use years before they had existence. Conscientious breeders of the new buffs meet with no difficulty in pleasing that portion of their patrons who have had experience with the varieties and are able to recognize a good bird of that description when they see it, but they calculate upon getting a good many hard knocks from those who are totally incompetent to pass judgment upon their purchases. And in truth a good deal of this misconception in regard to the buffs is due to breeders who have advertised "solid buff" Wyandottes or Plymouth Rocks, thereby encouraging the idea that the color of these varieties is as uniform and as well distributed as that of the Black Langshan or White Leghorn. It is not at all strange that people who have imbibed this idea should feel like "making Rome howl" when a bird of this class is delivered to them with dark tail and wing feathers. If people in their anxiety to make sales will thus deliberately deceive their patrons in regard to the characteristics of the varieties for which they are seeking purchasers they get about what they deserve when they are freely abused for their deception, but the unfortunate feature about it all is that others who are above such tactics must bear an equal share of the drubbings, without reaping any of the profits, resulting from this bad business.

Each hen and her brood should have a perfectly dry spot of their very own to retire to during the rainy weather of spring. And there should be no doubt of it keeping dry in any sort of a storm short of a tornado. The roof should not only shed water in the heaviest downpour, but the floor must be so

arranged that it cannot be flooded under any circumstances. Keep a shallow ditch open about the nursery coop, and thus be prepared for the heaviest rain. In the prairie states of the west it is quite important to have the coop securely anchored to the ground as a means of safety against the high winds at this season of the year.

Don't lay aside the bone cutter when eggs from the yarded hens are no longer a matter of special importance. Cut green bone is a valuable food for the chicks, and when fed with judgment, will make a marked difference in their development. If there was no other use for the bone cutter it would soon pay for itself in this way.

It will be observed that the chick that has wing feathers that are disproportionately long, showing a tendency to drag the ground, is nearly always behind its mates in size, and in other ways shows signs of feebleness. In such a case never hesitate to clip the long feathers. Unless the chick is eaten up by lice, an improvement in its appearance will usually be observed very shortly after this is done. The smaller breeds, such as the Leghorns, are more liable to be troubled with this unnatural growth of wing feathers than the larger.

A Few More Left!

Buff Wyandotte Cockerels.
At Three Dollars Each.

If you are looking for something good at a low price write at once for description.

D. D. WINE, Aurelia, Iowa.

41 LBS. Best Granulated SUGAR \$1.00

We are selling 41 lbs. of the best Granulated Sugar for \$1.00, and everything in the grocery line at "rock bottom" prices. We are the Only Supply House that Sell to Consumers at Strictly Wholesale Prices, which is clearly proven when we sell 41 lbs. best granulated sugar \$1.00. We ship these goods anywhere to anybody and guarantee satisfaction. Send No Money, but cut this out and send for full particulars enclosing two cents in stamps to
CONSOLIDATED WHOLESALE SUPPLY CO.,
215 to 219 So. Clinton St., Chicago, Ill.

Want a Brooder?

Not a Toy, but a
Business Brooder.

Roomy, Easy
to Clean.



Top and bottom heat;
Perfect Ventilation.

New 'American' Incubator and Brooder
POULTRY SUPPLIES

MOST COMPLETE STOCK IN AMERICA.
OUR BOOK, "EVERYTHING FOR THE POULTRY YARD,"
Tells All. 60 pages, finely illustrated, full of information. If you keep a hen you want it. Sent for 2c stamp
GEO. J. NISSLY, Saline, Mich.

"To be Well Born is Half Raised."

WE ARE A FEW HATCHED

BY A NEW SUCCESSFUL INCUBATOR.

There is a science attached to the construction of a good Incubator. We employ the most practical features; the material used, the accurate regulation of heat, equable temperature, correct humidity; automatic egg turning device, security against fire, are all of the highest order. Many things of interest and value to the poultryman in our new catalogue. Sent for 6 cents in stamps. Address

DES MOINES INCUBATOR CO.,
Box 40, DES MOINES, IOWA.

Query Department.

In this department questions pertaining to chickens and small fruits will be answered by O. P. GREER, Bourbon, Indiana.

I am breeding White Plymouth Rocks and find that it is a big job to keep the yellow cast from showing in their plumage, especially under the wing. The best and largest birds, the ones with the deep yellow legs and skin, show this yellow in plumage the most. I believe this yellow in plumage should not be considered a defect. Would you advise one to breed from birds showing yellow in plumage?—South Dakota.

If you are a true fancier and desire to raise "up-to-date" birds you must discard from your best breeding pens all birds showing the yellow tinge in plumage. If you are raising chickens simply for market I would pay little attention to this yellow in plumage, but would select the strongest and most vigorous birds with good yellow skin and plump bodies. This yellow tint in plumage is invariably accompanied with deep yellow skin, legs and beak, the things so much desired in all white breeds of fowls. It is a universal fact that a pure white bird with deep yellow skin, legs and beak is hard to find in many fancier's yards; the pure white birds are apt to have pale yellow legs and beak—often they are white. The best markets in the country call for a bird with a deep yellow skin, and as the White Plymouth Rock and White Wyandotte are raised by the hundreds of thousands all over the land for market, this matter of yellow tinge in plumage would cut a small figure in comparison to a deep yellow skin, viewed from the standpoint of market value. The Standard says "pure white plumage throughout," for White Plymouth Rocks, and that must be your guide: never vary from it, if possible. This yellow tinge has sticking qualities in all white breeds. For years breeders of White Leghorns have been fighting this yellow in plumage, yet they have not mastered it. In my rounds judging I find many White Leghorns, from the best strains showing this yellow tinge in plumage. Breeders of white fowls are fighting nature to some extent when they breed a pure white bird with deep yellow skin.

Answer to J. H. S., Buck Creek, continued: The Z. Breed weeder that I mentioned in February notes, is one of

the greatest inventions of the age. Since using the weeder we do very little hand weeding in our strawberry beds. The weeder has forty seven steel teeth three eights of an inch in diameter, curved like the teeth in a hay rake. The weeder I use is eight feet wide and will clean out four rows at one round at the rate of fifteen or more acres a day, making a fine dust mulch all around each plant, and if the plants have been well set it is very seldom that one is pulled out. As soon as the patch has fruited I go over the ground with a mowing machine and clip the plants close to the ground. As soon as the tops of the plants that were clipped off are dry enough to burn I go over the patch with a fork and raise up the straw and loosen it so that it can dry nicely and will burn quickly and clean. If any straw or trash of any kind is left on the ground it will be in the way of cultivation. After the patch is burned I commence immediately to cultivate. I first use the Planet Junior No. 6, as the ground is liable to be packed hard, especially if it is a clay soil. It will require a good strong cultivator with shovels two and one-half inches wide to cultivate the first two or three times. Follow up each cultivation with the weeder, going both ways of the patch. After the first two or three cultivations use the 12-tooth strawberry cultivator and weeder, and keep this up all summer, or until they are laid by in the fall. I do not allow any runners to catch on an old bed, unless the rows are plowed up close, which I seldom do, and can use the weeder all summer. This will prevent any runners catching.

If from any reason the matted rows were not complete and you would like to fill up the vacancies, then you will have to stop using the weeder as it will tear out the newly set plants. For the second crop leave the matted rows thirty two inches wide, only plowing out the middles. Sometimes, however, I have plowed the rows up to only eight inches wide and let new plants come out and form a row thirty two inches wide. In this case you cannot use the weeder after July.

Jenny Lind's Terrible Nervousness.

A reminiscent article on Jenny Lind and her home life has been prepared by her daughter, Mrs. Raymond Maude, for publication in the May Ladies' Home Journal. It is said to be filled with interesting memories of the famous singer,

and is noteworthy also as being the first view we have had of her through the eyes of her adoring daughter. Mrs. Maude brings to light the fact that Jenny Lind was always nervous and overstrung before events—just before singing in a new opera or oratorio, but was quite calm when the moment of action arrived.

CHOICE Barred Ply. Rocks.

If you want eggs from good birds scoring from 90 to 92 points, write Mrs. Silas Cobbs, Marathon, Iowa. Box 303.

WYANDOTTE Poultry Yards

Silver, White and Golden. White Guineas, Holland Turkeys and Pekin Ducks. Scored stock.

G. W. WARNER, Sheffield, Iowa.

Eggs From BUFF ROCKS.

S. C. W. Leghorns and Black Langshans. Fifty-one prizes won this season. Circular free. Prices right.

H. B. BOYER. - Morrison, Illinois.

T. C. Crepps,

—BREEDER OF—

Barred Plymouth Rocks Exclu'y.

Cockerels one dollar each, two for \$1.75. Eggs \$1.00 for 15; \$1.50 for 30.

T. C. CREPPS, Aurelia, Iowa

My Partridge Cochins

Are birds that you will not be afraid to put on exhibition when they become your own. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$3 for 20. Stock for sale.

J. N. VEEDER, - Primghar, Iowa.

What a Lot of Eggs

the hens lay when fed on Green Cut Bone: with a dozen hens

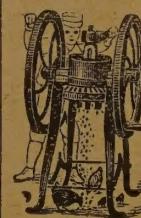


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Will pay for itself in a short time in the increase of eggs.



Five Dollars buys one

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180 Highest Awards Received.

Catalogue free if you mention this paper.

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MILFORD, MASS.

Breeders' Cards.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, exclusively. Conger, Hawkins. Lawton's best strains. Write me before you buy. J. D. Stevenson, Killbuck, Ohio.

MRS. JASPER COON, Correctionville, Iowa, breeder of L. Brahmas, B. Langshans, Buff and White Cochins, W. P. Rocks and C. I. Games. Eggs in season.

OH, SAY! Do you want any Barred Plymouth Rocks or S. C. B. Leghorns from high scoring birds? Hawkins strain of Barred Plymouth Rocks. W. P. Marsden, Columbus City, Iowa.

WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCKS, only. Full blood, large size. Eggs \$1 a setting. W. D. Swaim, Panora, Iowa.

W. E. DONAT, Maynard, Iowa, breeder of fullblood White Plymouth Rocks. Eggs \$1 per fifteen.

VILLA PARK POULTRY YARDS, Black Minorcas and Buff Leghorns. Eggs reduced to \$1 per 13. Stock for sale at all times. Satisfaction guaranteed. Walter Harned, Trenton, New Jersey.

SCOTCH COLLIE puppies, bred from trained parents. High class poultry. E. E. Hoffer, Cresco, Indiana. Box 10.

EGGS FOR HATCHING from Houdans, Barred Plymouth Rocks, S. C. B. Leghorns, Game Bantams and Pekin Ducks. No more stock for sale until fall. Stamp for reply. E. and M. Hissong, Washington, Iowa.

FANCY RABBITS, Guinea Pigs and Pigeons, all varieties. Barred Ply. Rocks and Golden Seabright Bantams. Eggs 75 cents per 15. W. C. Hugunin, Spencer, Iowa.

W. C. B. POLISH, W. Frizzles for sale. Good stock. Eggs in season \$1 per setting. Segwum Poultry Farm, Lowell, Michigan.

\$25 IN PREMIUMS offered to those sending orders. Send 2 stamps for premium list and circular to Robert Hartwig, Hackney, Mo.

WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCKS, Empire strain, 9 good breeding cockerels at \$1.25 each, 2 for \$2. Gearhart Knitting Machine cost \$8.00, brand new, full set at \$4.75. Also new violin cost \$5.00, price \$2.00, or will exchange for typewriter or Buff Rocks. Fred Havig, St. Ansgar, Iowa.

"LONE OAK," one dollar buys eggs from Lt. Brahmas, S. S. Hamburgs, W. and Barred P. Rocks, Buff Cochins, Pekin Ducks. Premium stock. A. C. Diller, Marshalltown, Iowa.

FOR SALE, choice lot of Barred P. Rock cockerels. Seventy-five cents each. Geo. S. Jones, Aurelia, Iowa.

EGGS FROM HIGH-SCORING Barred Plymouth Rocks \$1.50 and \$2 per setting of 15. C. B. Wagner, Hiteam, Monroe co., Iowa.

S. C. B. LEGHORNS, exclusively. Eggs 15 for 50 cents. C. M. Saltzer, Nursery, Illinois.

CORNISH INDIAN GAME, Black Langshan and White Wyandotte eggs for sale from birds scoring from 90 to 94 points. Prices reasonable. H. E. Gerke, Quincy, Illinois.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS exclusively. Pen is headed by LaCrosse's first prize cock, 93½ by Emery, E. E. Ross strain. Mated to high class females. Eggs \$2 per 13. J. O. Mills, Ashland, Wisconsin.

BANTAM'S AND PIGEON'S eggs per 13. African, Buff Pekin \$3; imported Black Red \$4. Pigeons, Swallows, Barbs, Pouters, Etc. A. H. Hughes, Springfield, Illinois.

English Red Caps, Silver Wyandottes, Eggs \$1.00 per setting. Satisfaction guaranteed. R. J. Holman, Proprietor Crystal River Poultry Yards, Parfreyville, Wisconsin.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, Cockerels \$1 each; pullets 75 cents; eggs 4 cents each. A. M. Chamberlain, Aurelia, Iowa.

D. E. TWINING, Kipton, Ohio, (Lorain County), breeder of high class poultry of leading varieties. Send for catalogue.

JOHN D. ROWLEY, Jorden, N. Y., breeder of the best Barred Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes. Stock for sale. Eggs \$1 for 13.

F. E. COLEMAN, Manchester Green, Conn., breeder of Barred Plymouth Rocks exclusively. Eggs for hatching \$1.25 per 13; \$2 per 26. Poultry Journal one year free with every order. Please mention The Messenger.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS exclusively. Eggs 15 for 75 cents. Mrs. M. Garing, Montezuma, Iowa.

WILLIS WHINERY, Salem, Ohio, breeder of 20 varieties of fullblood poultry. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Write for what you want.

BLACK MINORCAS. Winners at two banner shows, Cleveland and Pittsburg, winning eight premiums and two specials on eight entries at Pittsburg show. Fine breeding cockerels at reasonable prices. Eggs in season. Write for circular. Robert Mairer, Akron, Ohio.

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC LANGSHANS, Black and White. E. A. R. Sure Roup Cure. A. H. Ascher, Princeton, Illinois.

LIGHT BRAHMAS, Black Javas, Rose Comb Brown Leghorns from high scoring birds. Eggs \$1.25 per 15. Geo. Hammetter, Sumner, Iowa.

SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGs, exclusively. Be sure and send for my illustrated circular—its free. W. F. Metz, Ionia, Michigan.

DANSY POULTRY FARM, Pansy, Pennsylvania. Thirteen varieties of land and water fowls. Send stamp for circular.

GREAT BIG LIGHT BRAHMAS, eggs and stock for sale in season at hard times prices. Our stock will suit you. L. M. Rowe, Galva, Ia.

W. E. BEARD, De Witt, Iowa, breeder and mater of Silver Wyandottes—12th year. Stock and eggs for sale in season.

JAMES M. SMITH, Perkiomenville, Pa., Box 7, breeds all leading varieties of poultry. Eggs \$2 per 13. Fine catalogue free.

BAARED ROCKS exclusively. Cockerel from F. A. Gibson, West Alexander, Pa., score 92 points; pullets score 90 to 93½. Eggs from this pen \$1.50 per 15. A pen of choice unscored nicely barred heavy boned hens mated with cockerel scoring 90 points. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. A. L. Manwell, Vinton, Iowa, box 783.

Valuable Formula for 10 Cents.

Hooper's Lice Formula kills insect life with lightning dispatch, Rough on Lice, Mites, Bedbugs, Roaches, Fleas, Ants, etc; exterminates with magical effect; cheap, harmless, easily applied, directions for making 10 cents, (stamps) circulars free. F. L. Hooper, box 8, Station D, Baltimore, Maryland.

Barred Plymouth Rocks

Stock and Eggs. Write wants. W. A. Shipton, Uhrichville, Ohio.

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Eggs for Hatching from four grand matings of high scoring birds. Eggs one to two dollars per thirteen.

Buff Cochins Bantams.

Scoring 93, 92, 93, 93½, 94, 94½ 95, by I. K. Felch. Highest scoring Buffs at Cedar Falls, Iowa, 1897. Eggs \$2 per 13

W. H. MILLER, Independence, Iowa

An Experiment.

BY J. J. BEAN, ABBOTSFORD, WIS.

Editor MESSENGER.—Last season there was some discussion in The Messenger in regard to the degree of cold eggs could be subjected to without impairing their usefulness for hatching purposes. Some highly reputable breeders contended that they could be exposed to a temperature but little above freezing, and yet hatch reasonably well if the conditions were right. I expressed my dissent from this opinion at the time, but promised you that I would make a careful test of the matter this spring and report results. This communication is sent you in accordance with that promise.

The first of March I set two hens on twelve eggs each. Under one hen I placed eggs which were picked up as soon as the hens left the nests. Under the other I placed eggs that laid in the nest box all day where three feet below water froze. None of these eggs were frozen, as far as could be judged from outward appearances, but as soon as you took one in your hand it would sweat and felt very cold. Eleven eggs under hen No. 1 were fertile, and eight chicks hatched. The other three were full grown but died in the shell. I have six large, nice chicks now, the result of this hatch, the other two were chilled not knowing enough to get under the hen. All eggs under hen No. 2 were fertile. One chick came out, helped two out, and the other eggs hardly got embryo started. These three chicks all died in less than four days. Not being satisfied with that I picked up 7 fresh eggs with 6 more and put the 6 in same box all day where as before water froze three feet below. I marked those eggs plainly, and placed all under one hen. Six eggs were fertile out of the seven fresh eggs, five out of the ones exposed to the cold. Result of the hatch, six fine chicks out of the fresh eggs. Helped one out, of the others one picked through and died, the other three were only just sprouted. Don't think the chick helped out will live. Now I am not satisfied entirely yet and as soon as I start the refrigerator I shall put eggs in and then be able to get the exact temperature they will be subjected to. Now that I have made a beginning in this direction I am determined to learn something definite in regard to the matter before I am done with it.

THE POULTRY MESSENGER, AND Western Fruit-Grower.

Published the 15th of every month by
The Messenger Company,
AURELIA, IOWA.

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Several correspondents of the poultry papers have recently shown considerable agitation over the fact that some editors are advertising poultry and eggs in their own papers, and thus placing themselves in what is regarded as unfair competition with their patrons. It is alleged, for instance, that if the editor of the Poultry Clincher is advertising White Wyandottes in his paper alongside of some breeder who is not an editor, the majority of persons who are led by one or both of the advertisements to make a purchase will send their orders to the editor, on the presumption that his stock must be better than the other. It is claimed that the mere fact of his being an editor of a poultry paper is presumptive evidence that his qualifications are better than one who is less closely allied with the poultry industry—that his stock is superior to that of the common run of breeders for the reason that he has better opportunities for making it so. Now there is not a particle of foundation for such an inference. If anybody has any doubts on this point it is not the editors. Every one of them has acquaintances from whom they could learn a good many things which would be useful to them in their efforts to improve their own specialties, and they would be mighty glad to be put in possession of the secret by which these breeders have built up a flock ranking several notches above their own.

□ It is not our purpose to enter upon a discussion of the justice or propriety of an editor making use of his advertising columns in the manner above referred to. That is a matter which every one must settle according to his own sense of right. We merely want the liberty of saying that there is a way open to the editor to offer his poultry for sale through his paper without furnishing occasion for the complaint that he is thus putting himself in unjust competition with his patrons. The editor of The Messenger advertises poultry and

eggs in these columns, but those to whom he sells have no means of knowing that he has any connection with the paper. He keeps a separate set of stationery for correspondence in relation to his poultry business, and never uses a company letter head or envelope for that purpose. He places himself exactly on a footing with the balance of the advertisers in his columns, and while he does not believe that any particular advantage would accrue to him as the result of a divulgence of his relationship to the paper, he will at least give the benefit of the doubt to its patrons. We do not wish to be understood as speaking in any authoritative way of the duties of editors to their patrons in this particular. We merely want to tell the fellows who feel aggrieved at the kind of competition in question, that their complaints against the editors have no reference to us.

It might be inferred, from what we sometimes hear, that the qualifications for a successful poultryman are something wholly different from what is needed in a man in order to make a success in other lines of business. Successful poultrymen are simply hard-working, thinking, close observing people. Apart from this they are not endowed with any particular talents for the work which are not possessed by other people. Ninety-nine of them out of a hundred would have been equally successful at anything else to which they might have turned their attention. Successful poultrymen are not cast in any special mould. Expressions intended to convey this idea are misleading, and are getting to be a little bit tiresome.

Theodore Hewes confesses that poultry judges are only human "just common timber," and are, therefore, liable to make mistakes. Now if exhibitors will pattern after Mr. Hewes' candor and admit that they are also pretty well loaded up with the weaknesses of humanity, there will be fewer "black looks down the aisles" for the judges to take fright at, and some of these same judges may gradually come to a knowledge of the fact that it is within their power to bring about improvements in the manner of judging which will give less cause for the black faces which are such a disturbance to their happiness.

There are a good many disqualified breeders, and the revision committee will not be able to present any plan for bringing them up to standard requirements.

The man who way off in Pennsylvania, or Arkansas, or Utah, writes you to send him a setting or two of eggs and he will promptly remit to you on receipt of the same, may intend to do as he promises, but the chances are that he does not. Trustworthy people with good sense don't make a practice of doing business in that way. This, of course, has no reference to people whose integrity is so well known as to make even the sending of a reference unnecessary:

One of the male birds in the yards of Mrs. Silas Hobbs, Marathon, Iowa, is a full brother of that much talked of prize Barred Plymouth Rock hen exhibited by W. S. Russel at Chicago. His score is 91½. Mrs. Hobbs has two other cockerels from the Russell yards scoring 91 and 92 mated with hens to match.

James G. Welch, of Lansing, Michigan, entered 17 of his Single Comb Brown Leghorns at the Lansing show and won the \$10.00 premium for most birds in show scoring over 90 points, and also the \$5.00 special for best collection. He tied for 1st premium on cockerel, score 93; won 2nd, and 4th, on cockerel, and tied for 2nd on pullet, score 94.

The Reliable Incubator and Brooder Company, of Quincy, Illinois, have this season placed on the market a 50-egg size incubator. Anything that this company offers to the public can be depended upon as all right, and we have no hesitation about advising those in want of a small machine of this description to send to the Reliable Company for it.

One of the largest circulars in the interest of Buff Leghorns received at this office, is from Geo. S. Barnes, of Battle Creek, Michigan. It's 8 pages, size of page 8x11 inches, profusely illustrated. Mr. Barnes has a show record on his Buffs since 1881, and this season at Chicago, Detroit and Lansing. The circular is free for asking.

POULTRY BREEDERS! Send 50 cts for a 20-page monthly devoted to Poultry, etc. Sample copy six cents.
MICHIGAN POULTRY BREEDER,
Battle Creek, Michigan,

Fruit Growing

ELMER BRINTNALL, Editor,
Winthrop, Iowa.

All communications for this department should be sent to the above address.

Study varieties of small fruits and plant only those that do well over a large area and a great variety of soils.

Spread the manure from the wagon as you haul it out that the spring rains may wash it into the soil; don't leave it in piles.

California horticulturists are championing the cause of the robin on the ground that they devour many insects injurious to fruit.

Look over your fruit trees and see if they need relabeling. If they do, try zinc labels, cutting them six inches long one-half inch wide at one end and one-eighth inch at the other. Do your writing with a common lead pencil moistened. Fasten by making a turn and a quarter around a small branch.

It is only the painstaking fruit grower who will be the successful grower of the future. He will grow a fine grade only, and the market is each year demanding more fine grades and less poor ones.

Intensive Orchard Cultivation.

An improved plan for orcharding is advised by C. G. Patton, of Charles City, Iowa. His method is to plant the trees in belts of three rows and about fourteen feet apart, the distance between belts to be from thirty to sixty feet apart. The open space between belts to be highly cultivated by planting some hoed crop, or after a few years may be sown to clover and cut for a mulch for the adjoining belts. The rows should be run north and south. After the trees are set, cultivation should continue until they are too large to permit it, and the heavy applications of barnyard manure should be spread over the ground occupied by the belts. Low-headed trees are best.

Fruit-growers are learning the value of elevation and northern exposure if they are to succeed well with certain lines of fruit. The elevation is a means of giving good air drainage, and is thus

quite effective against injury to fruit buds by late frosts. There is also little danger from late growth to be injured by the cold of winter. The northern slope is an effective precaution against early bursting flower buds to be injured by late frosts. Fruit-growing is one of the occupations wherein men are apt to make costly mistakes at the very outstart unless they go about their work understandingly.—Nebraska Farmer.

The Gooseberry.

From Paper by Professor W. M. Munson before the Maine Pomological Society.

Under good culture gooseberries will succeed well on a variety of soils, but as with the currant, the best results are obtained on a strong, rather moist, well-drained, clay loam. Thorough but shallow cultivation should be given. In ordinary field culture the plants should be set five feet apart each way, or in rows six feet apart and four or five feet distant in the row. Gooseberries are trained both in the tree form and in the bush form. Ordinarily the latter is preferable.

PRUNING.—As a rule little pruning is required during the first three or four years, except to head back the strong new shoots and remove a few of the less vigorous ones for the purpose of developing fruit spurs all along the canes. The latter treatment consists in annually removing superfluous branches and checking growth sufficient to keep the bushes within bounds.

PROPAGATION.—The gooseberry may be grown from cuttings as in the currant, or by mound layering. By this method the plants are headed back to induce the formation of strong new

shoots near the surface of the ground. Late in June or in July when the new wood has become somewhat hardened a mound of earth is made about the "stool," the earth being about four or five inches deep above the bases of the shoots. In the fall the earth is removed and the rooted shoots are cut off and planted at once in well prepared soil, or they may be tied in bundles and treated as cuttings until the following spring. If care is used in removing shoots during the winter, propagation from the same plants may proceed indefinitely from year to year.

Our Horticultural Visitor is the FRUIT GROWER'S friend. Find out by sending for a free sample copy to Kinmundy, Illinois.

Do You Want a Paying Business

That is safe and will be permanent? If you have a pair of horses and from \$50 to \$500 capital, the F. C. Austin Mfg. Co., of Chicago, will be pleased to correspond with you as to the use of certain special road-grading and earth-moving machinery; also well-drilling machinery. To save correspondence, write plainly stating your situation fully and naming parties to whom you can refer.

SMITH'S SMALL FRUITS

FOR 1897.

100 varieties. The best of the old and new sorts, including the new Egyptian Raspberry, one of the hardiest blacks ever produced. Send for list.

I have had an experience of **thirty years** in the business.

B. F. SMITH,
LAWRENCE, KANSAS.

Box 6.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS

\$2 per thousand. The best plants you ever saw,

Blackberries, Raspberries, and other Small Fruits cheap.

Seed Potatoes \$1.50 per barrel. New Varieties true to name. First quality. Northern Grown. **List Free.**

JOHN F. DAYTON, Waukon, Iowa.

**Gold,
Silver,
Fruit,**

Made by Planting My Fruit Trees,

Lucretia Dewberry, Egyptian King Blackberry, Strawberry and Raspberry plants, Pie Plant and Asparagus Roots, Red Cedar, Shade Trees and Seedlings, Black Walnut, &c. &c.

My Persimmon Trees Net Me \$5 to \$10 per Tree.

Choice fruit farm for sale. Write for my free price list.

GEO. C. HANFORD,

MANKANDA, JACKSON COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

On Illinois Central R. R.

STRAW
BLACK
RASPB
GOOSE

Berry DEFENDER COLLECTION of PLANTS
STRONG ROOTED

Regardless of Quantity.

Fine Assortment of Grapes and Currants.

W.M. C. BABCOCK, Bridgman, Mich.

Fruit Growing

ELMER BRINTNALL, Editor,
Winthrop, Iowa.

All communications for this department should be sent to the above address.

Thayer's Berry Bulletin for April.

The growing of a berry calls into action some of the most wonderful laws of nature.

In the growth of plants we find these laws in perfection. We also find in various forms a complete supply of every element required for the full development of both plant and fruit.

Nature gives all these products without stint. She simply asks in return that we assist her in some of the smaller details of the work.

She asks that the soil be made rich and well prepared. That the plants be of good quality and carefully set out. That frequent hoeing and cultivation be given. That plants be protected from winter frosts and summer drought. That no insect pest or fungus disease find an abiding place with them. That you treat them as a friend and love them as a brother.

Both pleasure and profit comes in greatest measure from closest attention to all these details.

Nature furnishes almost every good with a prodigal hand, but she is a niggard to him who will not work in her ways. You cannot cheat her in farm or garden. You cannot get something for nothing. These are days of progress.

Every line of business must advance with the times, or drop to the rear. The farmer has been the laggard.

The safest, the surest, the most ancient and the most honorable business on earth should be in the most progressive ranks.

An army of best newspapers are stationed all along the agricultural highway, to guard us from error and direct us to success. We cannot afford to be without them. Read them! Study them! Experiment in a moderate way, give extra preparation and cultivation to certain tracts, and mark results, as compared with ordinary tillage. Observe results of similar experiments on your neighbors farm. Compare notes with him and reason together.

Extend like experiments to the seeds

you sow, the stock you grow, and trees, plants and shrubs you set.

Such experiments are almost sure to lead to more careful selection of seed, stock and plants. To a more thorough cultivation of the soil and better results every way from farm, fruit and garden.

A Good Market.

A large majority of farmers will not raise a supply of small fruits; and there are several reasons for this. They have not the skill; to do so would interfere with their regular business; nearly all small fruits are liable to the attacks of insect enemies or fungous diseases that farmers cannot prevent; and success depends largely on love for the work which one is not likely to have and still be a farmer. There is some reason for a farmer's thinking that if he can make but little at a business that he understands, he could do still less at one that is new to him. A farmer has no inclination to do fine, pains-taking work in the garden, but he is usually willing to buy fruits and other good things for his family if they are within his reach. This being the case why do not more fruit growers seek the patronage of the farmer? He cannot drive several miles to town for berries every day, but a berry grower could easily deliver fruit daily, to every family in one or two school districts. This has been done over and over, with profit to both parties. We have known several parties to raise berries and sell the entire crop at home, to farmers who came every evening. The same customer would buy seed potatoes, onion sets, cabbage and tomato plants. Every man to his trade, but horticulture is not the occupation of the farmer.—Horticulture.

Blackberries.—The pruning of the laterals is often overdone (to make the lines look well), and so we get more wood than flowers. Leave the laterals quite long—fifteen to twenty inches—and cut out the small canes, unless you want to plant another line. The time to decide upon the number of canes for bearing next season is when cultivating in summer.

WORTH A THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ANY FARM



An Evergreen Grove of 100 selected trees, 2 to 5 feet high, only \$10, delivered at your railroad station. All this stock is re-transplanted and well branched. Packed in wet moss and boxed so as to reach any point in United States safely. Your choice from millions of trees—largest Evergreen nursery in the country. Carry also a general line of all varieties of Fruit Trees, Small Fruit Plants, Forest Trees, Ornamentals, Roses, Shrubs, etc. Write at once for free catalogue and price list. LIBERAL terms for getting up clubs, or to reliable salesmen with or without experience. Send \$1 for sample order of 20 best Evergreens 1 ft. high or 100 6 to 8 in., by mail prepaid. Reference—any Bank or Commercial Agency.

Plants

Strawberry Plants.

\$1.50 to \$3 per thousand. Ten thousand **Warfield** for \$12.50. Most varieties Garden Seeds at 5 cents per oz., 25c to 40c per lb. Price list free.

G. D. BLACK & CO.,
SEED GROWERS,
Independence, Iowa.

Seeds

Iowa Trees!

First-class and prices reasonable at the

Southern Iowa Nursery.

All kinds of Hardy Trees and Plants. Send your name and address for Catalogue and Prices to

A. TROTH, Cantril, Iowa

Millions of Strawberry PLANTS

At the lowest prices. Finest plants we have ever grown. 25,000 Kansas Raspberry—the finest raspberry grown. All other kinds of small fruit plants. Write for catalogue.

F. W. DIXON, Holton, Kansas.

A Woman Florist.

5

EVERBLOOMING ROSES

Red, White, Pink, Yellow and Blush

FOR 10cts

ALL WILL BLOOM THIS SUMMER.

Send 10 cents for the above Five colors of Roses. I want to show you samples of the Roses I grow, hence this offer.

8 of the loveliest fragrant everblooming Roses, 25cts
 8 Hardy Roses, each one different, fine for garden, 25cts
 8 Finest Flowering Geraniums double or single, 25cts
 8 Carnations, the "Divine Flower," all colors, 25cts
 8 Prize Winning Chrysanthemums, world beaters, 25cts
 8 Lovely Gladiolas, the prettiest flower grown, 25cts
 8 Assorted Plants, suitable for pots or the yard, 25cts
 8 Beautiful Coleus, will make a charming bed, 25cts
 10 Superb Large Flowered Pansy plants, 25cts
 6 Sweet Scented Double Tube Roses, 25cts
 3 Begonias and 2 choice Palms, fine for house, 25cts
 8 Lovely Fuchsias and 3 fragrant Heliotropes, 25cts
 10 Packets Flower Seeds, a Choice Assortment, 10cts

SPECIAL OFFER.—Any 5 sets for \$1.00; half of any 5 sets, 6cts.; or the entire lot mailed to any address for \$2.50; or half of each lot for \$1.25. I guarantee satisfaction. Once a customer, always one. Catalogue Free. These plants will all grow with proper care. My great monthly "How to Grow Flowers," tells how. Add 25cts. to your order for it one year. Address,

MISS ELLA V. BAINES, Box 131 Springfield, Ohio

White Plymouth Rocks.

ALFRED ANDRAE, CHOICE STOCK

Aurelia, Iowa.
I breed White Plymouth Rocks exclusively, and have bred them for a good many years. The breeding pen from which I am offering eggs for sale this season is headed by a 93½ point cockerel, and he is mated to a choice lot of high scoring hens and pullets. You will not find any better stock than mine at the same price. Eggs \$1.50 per sitting of 13.



170 First Premiums.

Used by the Largest Breeders Exclusively.
Do not buy until you send for our 160-page Illustrated Catalogue.

All Machines Warranted.
PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATOR CO., Homer City, Pa.

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Not Better,
But as Good as the Best,

Is what we claim for our fowls, and our show record for the past three years fully substantiates that claim. Not premiums won at county fairs, but at leading shows and state fairs. Thirty-four premiums at the Minnesota State Fair, September, 1896, is our latest triumph. Selected breeding and exhibition birds for sale. Prices low, quality considered. If you are after 50c or \$1 birds please don't write. We use the hatchet on that kind of stock. We have for sale A FULL LINE OF POULTRY SUPPLIES, and please remember we will not be undersold on this class of goods. Send for our 40-page solid buff catalogue. It's a beauty.

W. M. BEAN, Lock Box 72.

Anoka Buff Poultry Yards,
ANOKA, MINN.

B Plymouth Rocks
U Brahmas
F Wyandottes
F S C Leghorns
F R C Leghorns
F Cochin Bantams

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and pay for it before giving it a trial. The firm who is afraid to let you try their incubator before buying it,

has no faith in their machine. We will sell you ours ON TRIAL, NOT A CENT until tried, and a child can run it with 5 minutes attention a day.

We won FIRST PRIZE WORLD'S FAIR, and will win you for a steady customer if you will only buy ours on trial. Our large catalogue will cost you 5 cents and give you \$100 worth of practical information on poultry and incubators and the money there is in the business. Plans for Brooders, Houses, etc. 25. N. B. Send us the names of three persons interested in poultry culture and 25 cents and we will send you "The Bicycle: Its Care and Repair" a book of 180 subjects and 80 illustrations, worth \$5 to any bicycle rider.

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Poultry Yards

TEA, SOUTH DAKOTA.

Rose Comb Black Leghorns,
Rose Comb Brown Leghorns.

Eggs for sale from the very best matings. Also, a very fine

Mammoth
Bronze Tom

Weighing 40 pounds. Score card furnished with this bird. No turkey eggs for sale this season.

W. M. SOULE, Prop.

Light Brahmas, Felch Strain.

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Chicks hatched with hens in February, March, April and May; they are of mammoth size and have extra fine plumage. I will sell my surplus stock at prices that are right. No culls for sale at any price.

N. V. E. BALLARD, - Onawa, Iowa.

FOR SALE.—Buff Ply. Rock cockerels. First-class stock. A. L. Belew, Aurelia, Iowa.

HATCH CHICKENS BY THE HUNDRED



WITH THE IMPROVED
VICTOR
INCUBATOR

It is a pleasure to operate, absolutely self-regulating, needs no watching during day or night. Its hatching qualities are second to none. Thousands in successful operation; the simplest, most durable and cheapest first-class Hatcher in the market. A written guarantee is sent with each machine to be as represented or money refunded. Circulars free. Catalogue 4 cents.

Address GEO. ERTEL CO., Patentee & Mfr., QUINCY, ILL., U. S. A. Established 1867.

HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM—With the MODEL Excelsior Incubator.



Simple, Perfect, Self-Regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other Hatcher. Lowest priced first-class Hatcher made. GEO. H. STAHL, 114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

SIMPLEX HATCHER & BROODER



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THOROUGHbred POULTRY

Of the highest order. Birds scoring 90 to 95½ points: eggs \$1.00 per 13, poor hatch replaced at half price. S. C. B. W. and Buff Leghorns, S. S. Hamburgs, S. L. Wyandottes, W. and Barred Plymouth Rocks, W. and B. Cochins, Light and Dark Brahmas, S. and R. C. B. Minorcas (Northup strain), Irish and Mexican Gray Games, B. B. R. Games, R. P. Games.

Wanted at Once:

BUFF AND WHITE COCHINS, DARK AND LIGHT BRAHMAS, S. S. HAMBURG, S. L. WYANDOTTES, W. AND BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, ALL VARIETIES OF LEGHORNS, B. B. RED GAME AND RED PILE GAME.

I will give special bargain in exchange for plum, or any kind of fruit trees. Seed potatoes Carman No. 1 and 3, and violin, guitar and mandolin for poultry.

Money in Your Hen House.

You can find it by taking the Great Block of Six Poultry Papers.

POULTRY KEEPER, Parkersburg, Penn.
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INTER-STATE POULTRYMAN, Tiffin, Ohio.
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SOUTHERN FANCIER, Atlanta, Georgia.
POULTRY MESSENGER, Aurelia, Iowa.

All six papers one year and a thirty word breeders' card three months in The Inter-State Poultryman for only \$1.85. Address

Inter-State Poultryman, Tiffin, Ohio.

HATCH

with the machine that is sold under a guaranty to produce the greatest possible percentage of live ones from a given number of fertile eggs. 12 years of success to the credit of THE RELIABLE INCUBATOR AND BROODER used with entire success in every State in the Union and many foreign countries. All about their good qualities and much more of interest to poultrymen in our Book on Incubation and Poultry. Send ten cents for it. Reliable Incubator & Brooder Co., Quincy, Ills.

CHICKS

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They are also largely interested in, and call especial attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous

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lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company, and which that company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the Yazoo Valley, Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill., or B. MOE, Ass't Land Commissioner

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come from the best trees. The best trees are grown in the far North. The very best trees come from our great Minnesota Nurseries — absolutely the best and hardiest that money will buy.

We sell millions of trees and plants every year. This season we want to sell more than ever. Nobody at any price can sell you as good trees as we can at a low price. The thing to remember is that our trees and plants grow. And they bear fruit. All we ask is your name and address, so we can send you a great deal of valuable information free. Tell us where you live, and we will tell you about our trees.

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